

Serial No.: 10/651,204

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for taking the time to discuss proposed changes to the claims with the undersigned on March 25, 2005.

The claims have been changed in a sincere attempt to place the case in immediate condition for allowance. The independent claims have been revised to specify that the plurality of prism groups are provided on the light receiving surface. The claim set constituted by claims 1 to 10 has been amended to call for a combination of a Fresnel lens sheet and a light source. The phrase in the independent claims regarding the light-receiving surface being divided into a predetermined specific region has been changed slightly to make it clear that the predetermined specific region is on the side of the light source, and the term "bigger" has been changed to "greater" where the former term appears.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging receipt of the certified copy of the priority document and for listing the references submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement.

The rejection of claims 7 to 9 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 as indefinite is respectfully traversed. It is acknowledged that a proposal was made to refer to the prisms in

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those claims as in "another region." Upon further discussion with applicants, it is believed that the claims as they read are definite because the independent claims from which claims 7 to 9 depend (claims 1 and 3) distinguish the prisms in the predetermined specific region from the prisms in the another region in terms of height (claim 1) or width (claim 3). The claims with respect are definite.

The rejection of claims 1 to 6 and 10 to 13 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Bichlmayer '671 is respectfully traversed. As indicated above, the claims have been changed to specify that the plurality of prism groups is provided on the light-receiving surface. The optical system in the cited reference clearly shows that the prisms are on the light-emitting surface and there is no suggestion within the reference to make the changes necessary to meet the limitations of the present claims. The instant claims further distinguish over Bichlmaier '671 by specifying differences between the prisms in the specific region and the prisms in the another region. As explained in the specification, the present invention prevents generation of stray light rays by having an arrangement that has incident light rays that otherwise would

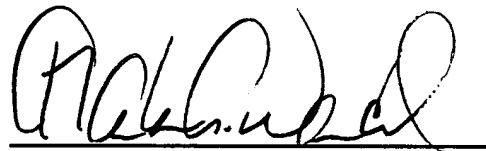
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become stray light rays reach the total reflection surfaces of the prisms. The rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

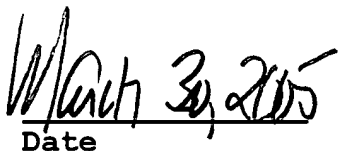
Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles A. Wendel", written over a horizontal line.

Charles A. Wendel

Registration No. 24,453

A handwritten date "March 3, 2005" in dark ink, written over a horizontal line.

Date

CAW/ch

Attorney Docket No.: DAIN:748

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.  
1421 Prince Street, Suite 210  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805  
Telephone: (703) 739-0220